

**University of California at Los Angeles**  
**Southern California Education and Research Center**  
**Annual Program Highlights**  
**Reporting Period: July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013**  
**Principle Investigator: Niklas Krause**

**Center Highlights**

**Continuing Education (CE)**  
**Program Director: Cass Ben-Levi**

Under the auspices of a grant from Advanced Sterilization Products, we offered six 2-hour webinars to healthcare professionals and workers at healthcare facilities on the new OSHA Hazard Communication (Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labeling of Chemicals). They were attended by a total of 144 participants (from 30 states) including two industrial hygienists, 11 physicians, 66 nurses, 45 safety workers or professionals at healthcare or health related facilities, and 20 other (including 3 central sterilization staff). Another 129 registered but did not attend; they received significant benefit from the webinar offering. All registrants received the handout which contained not only the content slides in the PowerPoint presentation, but also additional reference material. Under the same grant we offered two 2-hour webinars on Hand Hygiene for nursing, allied health, and central sterilization staff, and two 1-hour sessions for non-clinical staff exposed to patients or medical instruments, such as housekeeping, administrative and maintenance staff. These were attended by 20 nurses (including 5 with infection control responsibilities), 7 safety workers or professionals at healthcare or health related facilities and 6 other (including 4 central sterilization staff).

**Industrial Hygiene**  
**Program Director: Shane Que Hee**

Three doctoral students, two graduating -one with a heat stress topic and the other on glove permeation- presented their research at the Montreal American Industrial Conference & Exposition (AIHCE). Two MPH students also displayed posters of their internship work (benzene monitoring at an oil refinery and formaldehyde exposure in a pathology laboratory). Two Master's students won Southern California American Industrial Hygiene student awards, Another Master of Science IH student won the Tony Norton Memorial Fellowship. The IH faculty published 5 peer-reviewed publications, and apart from the NIOSH ERC grant, brought in three other grants.

**Occupational Health Nursing**  
**Program Director: Wendie Robbins**

Professional Service to OS&H Community

Thomas E.: American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Member, Planning Committee, 2012 American Occupational Health Conference

Thomas E.: California State Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Treasurer, Board of Directors

Thomas E.: Reviewer for Journal of Occupational & Environmental Medicine, 2011, 2012.

Robbins W.: California State Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Nominations Committee, Board of Directors

Robbins W.: Reviewer for the AAOHN Core Curriculum (4th ed.). Pensacola, FL: American Association of Occupational Health Nurses

### Presentations

\*Braginski I, Workplace Elbow Injuries, presented to clinical staff at U.S. Healthworks, Vernon, California, 2012

\*Braginski I, Workplace Eye Injuries, presented to clinical staff at U.S. Healthworks, Vernon, California, 2013

Thomas E. and \*D. Stone, Demonstrating Cost Containment: The OHN and Case Management Role, American Association of Occupational Health Nursing National Conference, 2012

Thomas E., University of California Los Angeles School of Nursing Guest Lecture: When, where, why and how: The Mechanisms of Workplace Injury, 2012

Robbins WA, Sperm Aneuploidy Associated with Lifestyle and Work Exposures, Environmental Mutagenesis Society 2012 Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington, invited speaker

### **Occupational Medicine Program Director: Leslie Israel**

Occupational Medicine – A recent graduate's NIOSH funded research was written, submitted and accepted for publication in peer reviewed journal appearing in April 2013. A name change occurred for the MPH equivalent degree graduate program from Environmental Toxicology to Environmental Health Sciences. The program name change reflects the expansion of educational track options. The EHS Graduate program offers two sub-disciplines in 1) Environmental Toxicology and 2) Exposure Sciences and Risk Assessment.

### **Publication)**

Alya Khan, Norbert Staimer, Thomas Tjoa, Pietro Galassetti, Donald R Blake and Ralph J Delfino, Relations between isoprene and nitricoxide in exhaled breath and the potential influence of outdoor ozone: a pilot study, Journal of Breath Res. 7 (2013) 036007 (8pp) [doi:10.1088/1752-7155/7/3/036007](https://doi.org/10.1088/1752-7155/7/3/036007)

### **Pilot Project Program Program Directors: Niklas Krause**

Pilot Research Program - Out of 5 pilot projects funded during the last 2012-13 period, 2 peer-reviewed articles have been written and submitted this year. One of these pilot grants awarded to a junior researcher led to two NIOSH research grants (R03); The researcher will investigate the impact of safe patient handling legislation on the prevalence of MSDs in California healthcare workers.